

NAME _____

Happiness/Purpose Persuasive Essay Rubric

46 - 50 -- This essay is **exceptional** and presents an engaging and persuasive narrative that is linked to your evidence. You answer the fundamental question raised by the assignment concerning happiness and purpose. The introduction and lead grab the reader's attention and asserts your thesis, the body paragraphs argue in support of the thesis, and the conclusion brings it all together into a meaningful whole. The overall organization, paragraphs, sentences, word choice, and mechanics enhance the meaning. Your writing voice is strong and evident throughout. There are few or no errors.

41 - 45 -- This essay is **commendable** and presents an engaging argument linked by supportive evidence. The overall organization, paragraphs, sentences, word choice, and mechanics are coherent with few errors, but it is clearly less in style and voice. These essays are less thorough and not as well written as exceptional ones.

37 - 40 -- This essay is **effective** and presents a complete and intelligible narrative with decent evidence that is argued but less well than those in the higher range. Errors in the overall organization, paragraphs, sentences, word choice, and mechanics still do not interfere with the meaning. These essays have several errors and are less well written than upper level papers.

33 - 36 -- This essay **approaches effective** and presents an intelligible story that may be missing some information. The argument seems to be missing information and seems thrown together, though it is understandable. Errors in the overall organization, paragraphs, sentences, word choice, and mechanics distract from the meaning.

32 -- This essay is **not effective** and presents no coherent argument. It lacks an overall idea to hold the pieces together. The introduction or lead does not tell the reader the focus, supporting details are missing or unclear, and the conclusion is confusing. Errors in the overall organization, paragraphs, sentences, word choice, and mechanics interfere with the meaning.

0 - 31 -- This essay, in which the **errors block meaning**, is unclear, undeveloped, disorganized, confusing, lacks detail, and is riddled with errors.